BENGALURU, MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 17 | Humidity 48% Partly Cloudy Sensex 76,619 | Nifty 23,320 | Gold 79,019 | Silver 91,504 | Dollar 86.58 | Euro 89.21 | GBP 105.35

NISSAN
WE TESTED THIS SUV FOR EXTREMES. NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.
THE FEATURE LOADED NEW MAGNITE N-CONNECTA @ ₹7.86 LAKH*
BUY BEFORE PRICE HIKE + GET BENEFITS UP TO ₹60 000*
*T&C Apply
MAGNITE
9833 800 700
#BoldInsideOut

SHOWER SURPRISE

City woke up to first rainfall of the season that brought down temperatures further; what is in store next?

PAGE 2

JAMMIN' CITY

Increasing number of private vehicles, slow pace of infra projects among reasons that has added to traffic congestion

PAGE 5

As video of driver busy on phone while navigating packed road goes viral, experts discuss this phenomenon that has thrown safety under the bus in the age of distraction

EYES ON THE ROAD, HAND UPON THE WHEEL

Fines, challans not enforced strictly, say citizens

| Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A BMTC electric bus driver was recently caught using a mobile phone while navigating Lalbagh Road during rush hour, putting passengers and other road users in jeopardy. A video of the incident, which unfolded in one of Bengaluru's busiest areas, went viral on social media, underscoring the growing menace of mobile phone usage while driving.

The offenders include drivers of all categories, private cars, public transport, and delivery personnel. The distraction caused by texting, attending calls, or browsing social media results in delayed reaction times and reckless maneuvers, often leading to accidents.

A senior traffic official told BM, "Around 40% of accidents occur due to phone usage. In cars, phones are often connected to Bluetooth, but in the case of two-wheelers, the highest risk comes from people keeping

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"Around 40% of accidents occur due to phone usage. In case of two-wheelers, the highest risk comes from people keeping their phones inside their helmets and using them while riding

—Traffic police official

Degrees of dubiousness

Fake PhD concerns in guest lecturer recruitment for first-grade colleges

| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The recruitment process for guest lecturers in first-grade degree colleges has come under scrutiny amid allegations of candidates having fake PhDs. Concerns have been raised that such instances might hinder the selection of eligible candidates for the academic year 2024–25. Sources said that the Department of Collegiate Education invited applications for guest lecturer positions in accordance with UGC regulations. However, it has been reported that some applicants without the required qualifications have acquired fake PhD certificates from other states and applied for the positions, raising doubts about the integrity of the process.

Sources of fake PhDs

Reports suggest that many candidates from Karnataka have obtained fake PhDs from states like Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. Allegedly, a few dubious universities have been issuing fake PhD certificates. Complaints regarding these universities

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Artistic debut

Celebrate the journey of young Kathak dancer Aaral Agarwal in her foundation recital, 'Nritya Aarambh.' After 6 years of dedicated practice, Aaral takes her first step into advanced Kathak under the guidance of Simran Godhwani. Witness a beautiful display of rhythm, recitation, and expressive dance marking her commitment to the art form. **Where: Indian Institute of World Culture; When: January 26, 4:30 pm**

02 Marital dilemma

Don't miss "I Wasn't Born Confused," a humorous play exploring modern youth's dilemmas about marriage. Written by Nikhil and Rashmi Gupta, and directed by Mihir Deshpande, it humorously portrays societal pressures and personal conflicts surrounding relationships. Get your tickets now for a thought-provoking 90-minute experience. **Where: Jagriti Theatre; When: January 31 & February 1, 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm**

03 Timeless music

Celebrate Tarangini Arts Foundation's Golden Jubilee with Meera Tarangini, a soulful musical event featuring a 50-member ensemble. Experience timeless Meera bhajans brought to life by renowned artists like Suma Sudhindran, Anooru Ananthakrishna, BC Manjunath, and more. **Where: Chowdaiah Memorial Hall; When: February 2, 6:00 pm**

04 Literary evening

Join Tanay, co-founder of Non-Aligned Poets Collective, at "Tuesdays with the Bard" for an evening of soulful poetry. Enjoy his powerful verses from Echoes of an Afterthought, a collection on hope, love, and the human experience. Don't miss this unforgettable literary experience. Tickets are available online. **Where: Urban Solace; When: January 21, 7:30 pm**

05 Dance homage

Join Acharya Raksha Karthik and her disciples for a captivating dance tribute to Saint Thyagaraja, celebrating his life and devotion through mesmerising performances. Experience the spiritual journey of the legendary composer brought to life through dance.
Where: Prasanna Ganapathy Temple, Koramangala; When: February 19, 5:00 pm

City turns hill station with first rain spell of this year

Bengaluru records first rainfall of the season, with temperature at 21.4°C, 7.1°C below normal range; La Nina conditions are developing, but it may be brief and weak event

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Bengaluru residents woke up to a chilly and surprising Sunday morning as the city experienced its first significant rainfall of the season, apart from the drizzles recorded recently. The unexpected weather brought a refreshing change, marking a shift in the city's climatic patterns. Dr N Puviarasan, a scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD), attributed the rainfall to a trough in easterlies over the Southwest Bay of Bengal, off the Tamil Nadu coast, at 0.9 km above mean sea level. However, he noted that the trough has now become less marked.

"Looking ahead, light rain is expected to occur in isolated areas of Dakshina Kannada district on Monday, while the rest of Coastal Karnataka and Interior Karnataka are likely to experience dry weather. Shallow to moderate fog or mist may also form in isolated parts of Interior Karnataka during the early morning hours. In Bengaluru, the weather is forecast to remain partly cloudy, with shallow to moderate fog or mist expected in some areas during the early morning. Temperatures in the city are likely to hover around a maximum of 26°C and a minimum of 16°C, providing a cool and pleasant start to the week," he said.

"In B'luru, weather is forecast to remain partly cloudy with shallow to moderate fog or mist expected in some areas"

Uncertainty surrounding La Nina conditions

Private weather forecasting Skymet in its latest report said that the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has announced the beginning of La Nina conditions, upgrading its status from a 'La Nina Watch' to a 'La Nina Advisory.' A La Nina Watch signals favourable conditions for La Nina development with a six-month notice, while the advisory indicates that La Nina is active and expected to continue. A final advisory is issued once La Nina conditions have ended.

"CPC reports that equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central and east-central Pacific Ocean are below average, confirming the presence of La Nina. These conditions are expected to persist through February-April 2025 (with a 59% likelihood), with a transition to ENSO-Neutral conditions projected between March and May 2025 (60% chance). However, there is a divergence of opinion with Australia's Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) regarding the La Nina event. While the CPC affirms La Nina's development, BoM maintains that ENSO conditions in the tropical Pacific remain neutral. BoM acknowledges that although several indicators have recently met La Nina thresholds, they have not been sustained long enough to officially declare La Nina. The differences stem from varying threshold standards for La Nina and El Nino between CPC and BoM. The CPC uses a temperature anomaly of -0.5°C or lower for La Nina initiation, while BoM requires a -0.8°C anomaly. In the latest readings, BoM recorded the Nino 3.4 SST index at -0.83°C as of January 5, 2025, meeting the La Nina threshold. On the other hand, CPC's Nino 3.4 index was -0.7°C on January 6 and January 13, meeting its threshold of -0.5°C," the report stated.

> **"Historically, it is late in the ENSO cycle for La Nina to establish, and event may struggle to persist due to 'spring barrier'**
> – Skymet report

"For La Nina to persist, the Nino 3.4 value must either remain steady or strengthen. Currently, both oceanic and atmospheric indicators show stronger coupling, which is a positive sign for La Nina's development. The Indian Ocean Dipole remains neutral as of January 12, and is expected to stay neutral through May, aligning with typical behaviour for this time of year. Despite these indicators, La Nina is expected to be a brief and weak event. Historically, it is late in the ENSO cycle for La Nina to establish, and the event may struggle to persist due to the 'spring barrier.' If these conditions hold, it could potentially become the shortest La Nina event on record," the Skymet report added.

Vintage rally drives road safety

Advaith Hyundai, in collaboration with KVCCC (Karnataka Vintage and Classic Car Club), organised a Vintage Car Rally on Sunday. The rally was flagged off by SVS Subramanya Gupta, Managing Director of Advaith Hyundai, along with Anish Agarwal, Zonal Business Head, Hyundai Motor India Ltd., and Yun, Zonal Coordinator, Hyundai Motor India Ltd. The rally commenced at the Advaith Hyundai Bellandur showroom and concluded at the Advaith Hyundai Chintamani Branch. The purpose of the rally was to raise road safety awareness among the general public.

The event also featured a display of vintage cars, including a Jaguar Mark 7, Mercedes Benz Ponton, Morris Woody, Austin, Chevy Impala, Eagle, Morris Minor, and many other classic models, making it a true delight for car enthusiasts.
— BMB

Candidates obtain fake PhD certificates from other states

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

have already been filed with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). Discussions about taking action against such institutions were held in the Rajya Sabha on December 5, 2014. The Department of Collegiate Education has been urged to closely monitor applications and verify PhD certificates to prevent the use of fake qualifications in the recruitment process.

Certificates for sale

It is alleged that fake PhD certificates are available for as little as ₹5 lakh. Initial payments of ₹1 lakh are reportedly required, with the remaining ₹4 lakh paid after receiving the backdated certificates, sometimes within a week. Several candidates are believed to have used such fake documents to apply for the guest lecturer posts this year. On January 9, the UGC issued an official circular restricting new enrollments at Rajasthan's University. The state government is also reviewing its three-year degree programmes.

Increased reporting

Sources said that during previous years, candidates did not disclose their PhD qualifications while applying. This year, however, many have declared PhDs in their applications, raising suspicions about the authenticity of these qualifications. The Department of Collegiate Education has been advised to be vigilant in the selection process. A candidate, speaking anonymously, claimed they were offered a guest lecturer position for ₹5 lakh but declined the offer. The candidate expressed concerns about others using fake PhDs to secure positions.

An official from the Department of Collegiate Education, stated, "If anyone has submitted fake PhD certificates, they will be verified. Information from whistleblowers will help us conduct further investigations."

CCTVs, armed security, patrols: Closer eye on banks

After 2 armed robberies across state, city police intensify security efforts; new guidelines issued

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In response to recent bank robberies in Bidar and Mangaluru, police stations across Bengaluru have intensified efforts to enhance security measures. Meetings were convened with bank officials to discuss critical steps, including the deployment of armed security personnel, installation of high-definition CCTV cameras, and regular staff training to handle emergencies.

The urgency for these measures stems from two incidents including the Bidar robbery case that happened on January 16. Two armed robbers shot at bank staff transporting ₹93 lakh, resulting in one death and one critical injury.

The assailants, linked to the notorious Amit gang from Bihar, fled with the cash.

In another similar case, a gang of four masked men, armed with machetes and a pistol, stormed the Kotekar Vyavasaya Seva Sahakari Sangha Bank in Mangaluru, on January 17, looting cash and gold jewelry worth approximately ₹4 crore. They escaped in a black car.

Guidelines issued

In light of these incidents, city police have issued fresh security guidelines to banks across the city. City Police Commissioner B Dayananda, accompanied by senior officers, conducted night patrols on Friday, taking on the role of station house officers at select police stations.

They interacted with staff and citizens to review existing security measures and discuss improvements.

"Police stations and higher officials, along with various banks and their representatives, have been alerted, and detailed security guidelines have been provided to prevent such incidents. These measures must be strictly adhered to," said Dayananda during a media briefing.

Security audits and awareness drives

As part of the security review, patrolling teams were deployed in high-risk areas identified through previous crime reports and community feedback. Officers visited residential neighbourhoods to encourage residents to report suspicious activities and adopt safety practices like better lighting and secure locks.

> **"Gang of four masked men, armed with machetes and a pistol, stormed the Kotekar Vyavasaya Seva Sahakari Sangha Bank in Mangaluru, on January 17, looting cash and gold jewelry worth approximately ₹4 crore.**

Commercial establishments, late-night stores, and ATMs were also inspected to ensure their security arrangements were intact. Particular attention was given to poorly lit areas, isolated streets, and locations with a history of criminal activity.

This initiative extends beyond Bengaluru to districts in the central range, including Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur, and Kolar. Station-in-charge officials also conducted meetings with bank representatives and cash management companies to review security protocols and improve coordination.

Man attacks wife, her mother

The Banashankari police have arrested a 30-year-old for brutally attacking his wife and her mother with a sword on Tuesday.

The victims have been identified as Hina Kousar (25) and her mother, Praveen Taj (50) and the accused is identified as Asif.

Asif is said to have attacked Hina with a sword. She sustained over 50 stitches on her head, face, neck, and back, and is under observation at Victoria Hospital, while her mother is also receiving treatment for multiple injuries. The attack was triggered by Asif's suspicion of Hina having an affair with a college friend.

Asif and Hina, who are relatives, were married for a few years and have two children. After separating due to Asif's infidelity, Hina moved in with her mother and started seeking a job, reconnecting with college friends for help. A jealous Asif is said to have stormed into her house with a sword and attacked both women.

Neighbours who heard their screams rushed them to the hospital and alerted the police. **BMB**

Financial firm reports Rs 14.2 cr fraud

A Bengaluru-based financial services company offering digital loans, home loans, mutual funds, health insurance, digital gold, and UPI services has reported a ₹14.2 crore fraud.

Miscreants exploited a bug in the company's app to fabricate payment details and claim refunds.

The company, co-founded by Sachin Bansal and Ankit Agarwal, filed a complaint through its Vigilance Officer, Srinivasa Gowda. The Whitefield Cyber Crime Police registered a case under the IT Act on Saturday. **BMB**

LIC
भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA
Har Pal Aapke Saath

LIC has solutions for all your Life Insurance and financial needs.

Endowment Plans:
LIC's Single Premium Endowment Plan
LIC's New Endowment Plan
LIC's New Jeevan Anand
LIC's Jeevan Lakshya
LIC's Jeevan Labh Plan
LIC's Bima Jyoti
LIC's Jeevan Azad
LIC's Micro Bachat

Term Plans:
LIC's Yuva Term
LIC's Jeevan Amar
LIC's Yuva Credit Life
LIC's Saral Jeevan Bima

Unit Linked Plans:
LIC's Index Plus
LIC's Nivesh Plus
LIC's SIIP
LIC's New Endowment Plus

Pension Plans:
LIC's New Pension Plus
LIC's Jeevan Akshay VII
LIC's New Jeevan Shanti
LIC's Saral Pension

Children's Plans:
LIC's Amritbaal
LIC's Children's Money Back Plan

Money Back Plans:
LIC's New Money Back Plan
LIC's Bima Shree
LIC's Jeevan Tarun

Whole Life Plans:
LIC's Jeevan Umang
LIC's Jeevan Utsav

Contact your LIC AGENT NOW !!!

LIC/P1/2024-25/49/Eng

For details, contact your Agent/Nearest LIC Branch or SMS YOUR CITY NAME to 56767474

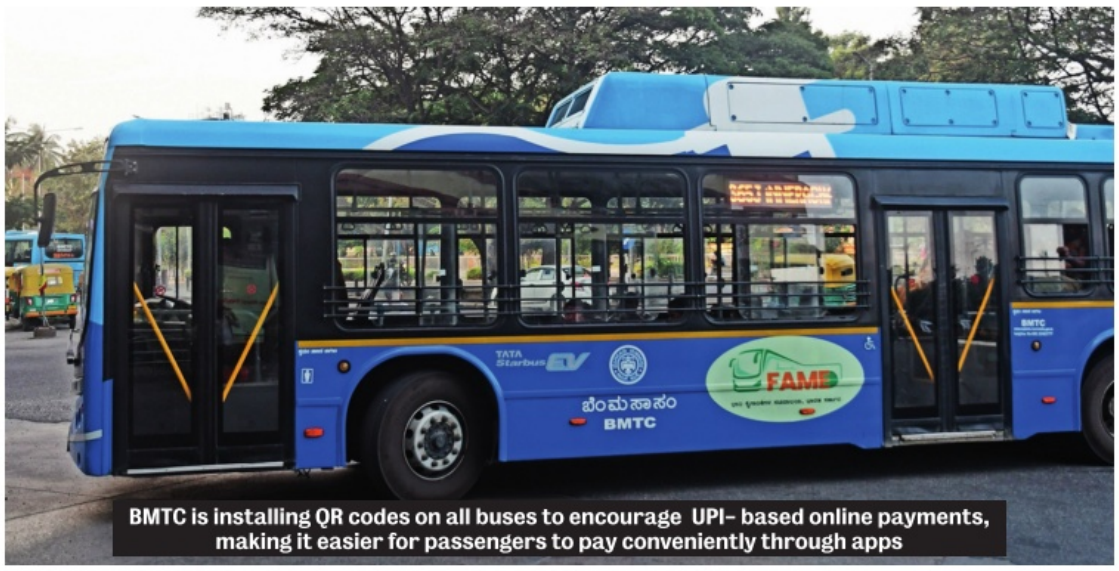
Download LIC Mobile App | Visit: www.licindia.in | Call Centre Services (022) 6827 6827 | Our WhatsApp No. 8976862090 Say 'Hi' | Follow us : LIC India Forever | IRDAI Regn No.: 512

BEWARE OF SPURIOUS PHONE CALLS AND FICTITIOUS / FRAUDULENT OFFERS. IRDAI or its officials do not involve in any activities of insurance business like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums, refund of amounts. Policyholders or the prospects receiving such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint. For more details on risk factors, terms and conditions, please read sales brochure carefully before concluding a sale.

BMTC shifts to cashless travel with UPI adoption

Transport Corporation aims to boost revenue to ₹1 crore daily by encouraging digital payments through QR codes on buses; this move aims to improve efficiency

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror



BMTC is installing QR codes on all buses to encourage UPI- based online payments, making it easier for passengers to pay conveniently through apps

In an effort to resolve the issue of loose change and promote cashless transactions, the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has decided to encourage passengers to pay for bus tickets using online payment apps. The corporation has set an ambitious target of generating ₹1 crore in daily revenue through Unified Payments Interface (UPI) QR code-based ticket payments.

Promoting online transactions in BMTC buses

An official said, "BMTC has been facilitating ticket payments via QR codes for several months to stress online transactions. However, the initiative has seen limited adoption due to some conductors not offering this option and a lack of enthusiasm among passengers. With the recent fare hike worsening the issue of loose change, BMTC is now ramping up efforts to popularise online payments. As part of this push, QR codes will be installed on all BMTC buses, ensuring that passengers can conveniently make payments through UPI-based apps."

Revenue target and current usage

Over 40 lakh passengers travel on BMTC buses daily, generating an estimated revenue of over ₹4 crore. Of this, only around ₹60 lakh comes from online payment apps. To address operational challenges, such as conductors managing loose change, BMTC aims to increase online payments to ₹1 crore daily. "To boost adoption, BMTC plans to intensify promotions on key routes such as the airport corridor and IT zones. Additionally, the corporation has integrated QR code generation capabilities into existing electronic ticketing machines to streamline the process. Encouraging digital transactions not only improves efficiency but also enhances the passenger experience. We are committed to resolving the challenges faced by both passengers and conductors while advancing towards a more cashless system," added the official.

Welcoming the UPI adoption, Mohammed Saif, a regular commuter said, "The adoption of UPI in BMTC buses is more than just a convenience; it's a significant step toward modernising our public transport system. By integrating UPI payment options, BMTC is revolutionising the commuting experience for millions in Bengaluru. UPI adoption simplifies fare payments by eliminating the need for physical cash or specific cards, enabling passengers to pay seamlessly through their smartphones. This makes transactions faster, safer, and more convenient while saving time and reducing congestion at bus stops. Additionally, UPI integration promotes financial inclusion by offering an accessible digital payment solution for everyone, including those without traditional banking access. This ensures that all commuters, regardless of their financial background, can easily and securely pay for their travel, enhancing access to public transport."

Burning garbage along railway track worries Horamavu residents

Horamavu residents urge BBMP to address improper garbage disposal, highlighting health risks; they call for stricter enforcement

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The abandoned LPG station has turned into a garbage dumping site, attracting miscreants

Residents of Horamavu are concerned about the regular burning of garbage along the railway track, which has become a common issue in the area. They urge BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike), particularly Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited, to instruct pourakarmikas to stop this practice.

"I informed the Fire and Emergency Services after receiving a phone call from one of the residents about the burning of garbage. I want to appreciate the Fire and Emergency Services personnel for dousing the fire. I was told that some pourakarmikas are setting garbage on fire. It has become a health hazard for senior citizens," said VP Krishna, founder of KR Puram Constituency Association Welfare Federation.

The residents said that the burning of garbage is rampant along the railway track, especially at the abandoned Auto LPG Station. "The abandoned Auto LPG Station has become a dumping yard for all types of garbage. It has become a destination for miscreants. I am residing in an apartment near the railway track, it has become tough for me to cope with the smoke emanating from burning garbage. I urge the BBMP authorities and police to take action," said Narayan Ram, a resident of 4th Cross, Horamavu.

Expressing concern over the burning of garbage, George Joseph, a resident, said the burning of garbage is taking place regularly. "Garbage is being dumped along the railway track. Instead of transporting garbage to the designated place, pourakarmikas are burning garbage. I want the BBMP authorities to prevent the burning of garbage," said George Joseph.

Demanding the BBMP authorities, a resident on the condition of anonymity, said that she is disappointed with the burning of garbage. "The BBMP authorities are expected to punish people who burn garbage. What to do when pourakarmikas burn garbage? I am aware that garbage is being dumped by irresponsible residents. The need of the hour is to prevent dumping as well as burning of garbage," the resident said. However, the BBMP Health Inspector was not available for comment.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Construction waste

Commercial Street

Construction debris dumped at No 153, Jewellery Street, 4th Cross, Commercial Street, is creating an eyesore and posing safety risks.

Footpath crisis

Kithiganur

For more than 20 years, the Kithiganur–Halehalli area has lacked proper footpaths, forcing pedestrians to walk without a safe space.

Encroachment woes

Ramamurthy Nagar

Illegal shops encroach footpaths in Ramamurthy Nagar, leaving pedestrians with no space to walk. Authorities must take action.

Stuck in the traffic? Here's why

Constantly growing number of new vehicles, sluggish pace of infra projects contributing to city's traffic congestion

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

With Bengaluru consistently being ranked as one of the worst cities when it comes to traffic, experts said that congestion has reached alarming levels, driven by a combination of factors including sluggish progress on development projects, worsening road conditions, and the addition of over 1,200 new vehicles to the city's roads daily.

This year alone, traffic congestion has surged by 20% on key routes like the Outer Ring Road, IT Corridor, and various flyovers. Motorists are facing difficulties in navigating through peak-hour traffic.

The rate of vehicle registration has skyrocketed, with over 1,200 new vehicles being added each day in the city. By the end of June this year, city police estimates indicated that the total number of vehicles in the city had reached approximately 11.6 million. This exacerbates congestion on already strained roads.

The slow pace of essential road development projects is a significant contributor to the worsening congestion. Critical infrastructure projects, such as the Ejipura flyover, Yelahanka flyover, Hebbal tri-level flyover, and the development of the Veerabhadranagar Outer Ring Road, are progressing at a sluggish rate. Furthermore, ongoing metro projects, underpass developments, and white-topping works are creating additional disruptions. These activities are leading to the encroachment of pedestrian paths.

Bengaluru has become notorious for its peak-hour traffic jams

Potholes issue

The city's efforts to repair potholes have been ineffective, resulting in roads that become waterlogged during the rainy season. Substandard repair work turns these roads into hazardous, water-filled obstacles, significantly reducing vehicle speeds and contributing to traffic delays. Underpasses, flyovers, and downhill roads are particularly affected by severe waterlogging. Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach. Prof. MN Sreehari, a city traffic planning expert, said. "There is an urgent need to address the slow-moving development projects," he said. He advocates reduction of registration of new vehicles to alleviate the growing congestion. Additionally, he suggests that public transport systems be significantly enhanced. A senior traffic police official said that there needs to be a coordinated effort from all authorities.

Spurt of vehicles

The number of vehicles on Bengaluru's roads has experienced substantial growth over the years, reflecting the city's rapid urbanisation and increasing demand for transportation. In 1976, Bengaluru had a mere 1.08 lakh vehicles. By 1986, this number had more than doubled to 3.29 lakh, marking a significant increase of approximately 204% over the decade.

The growth trajectory continued to rise sharply, with the vehicle count reaching 9.93 lakh by 1996. This represented a substantial 202 % increase from 1986. The upward trend accelerated dramatically in the following years. By 2016, the number of vehicles had surged to 66.66 lakh, indicating a staggering 573% increase from 1996. In 2020, the vehicle count further rose to 94.59 lakh, reflecting a 42% increase from 2016. The trend of increasing vehicle numbers continued, and by 2022, the count had crossed 1 crore (10 lakh), reaching 1.08 crore. This represented a 14% rise from 2020.

The upward trend persisted into 2023, with the vehicle count climbing to 1.09 crore, showing a marginal increase of about 0.93% from 2022. In the first six months of 2024, the number of vehicles further rose to 1.16 crore, indicating a 6.42% increase from the previous year.

Two-wheelers galore

In Bengaluru, two-wheelers constitute the majority at 67.24%, making them the predominant vehicle type on the city's roads. This is followed by cars, which make up 20.57% of the total vehicle count. Three-wheelers come next, accounting for 2.81%, while light goods vehicles represent 2.29%. Heavy goods vehicles slightly exceed light goods vehicles at 2.37%.

BM Finance Fundas

Advertorial Promotional Feature

New RBI directive to banks, NBFCs to ensure nomination in FDs, saving accounts

The Reserve Bank of India has issued a notification stating that nomination is not available in a large number of deposit accounts with banks and NBFCs. To avoid undue hardship to survivors/ family members of deceased depositors, the RBI has asked banks to obtain nomination in case of all existing and new customers having fixed deposit accounts, savings accounts, and safety lockers.

Having a nomination will make it easier to transfer funds from savings account, fixed deposit, or safe deposit lockers to the eligible person (nominee) without any delay or legal issues.

The nomination facility is designed to lessen the hardship and speed up the resolution of family members' claims following the death of the depositor or depositors. According to the RBI circular on January 17, 2025, "Instructions on nomination facility for Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) (Excluding RRBs), Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs) and Deposit taking NBFCs have been incorporated in Master Circular on "Customer Service in Banks"1, Master Circular on "Customer Service – UCBs"2 and Master Direction on "Non-Banking Financial Companies Acceptance of Public Deposits (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016"3, respectively. The extant instructions also mandate banks to give wide publicity and provide guidance to deposit account holders on the benefits of the nomination facility."

Who is a nominee

A nominee in an account or investment is the person the account holder wants the funds to be transferred to, in case the account holder/investor passes away. Filling in a nominee's name when opening an account or adding it later ensures that the account holder's assets are transferred smoothly to the person chosen for the purpose. According to the ICICI Bank website, "A nominee is a person or entity who is designated to receive the funds in a bank account after the account holder passes away. The nominee is responsible for ensuring that the funds are used as the account holder intended."

Importance of nomination

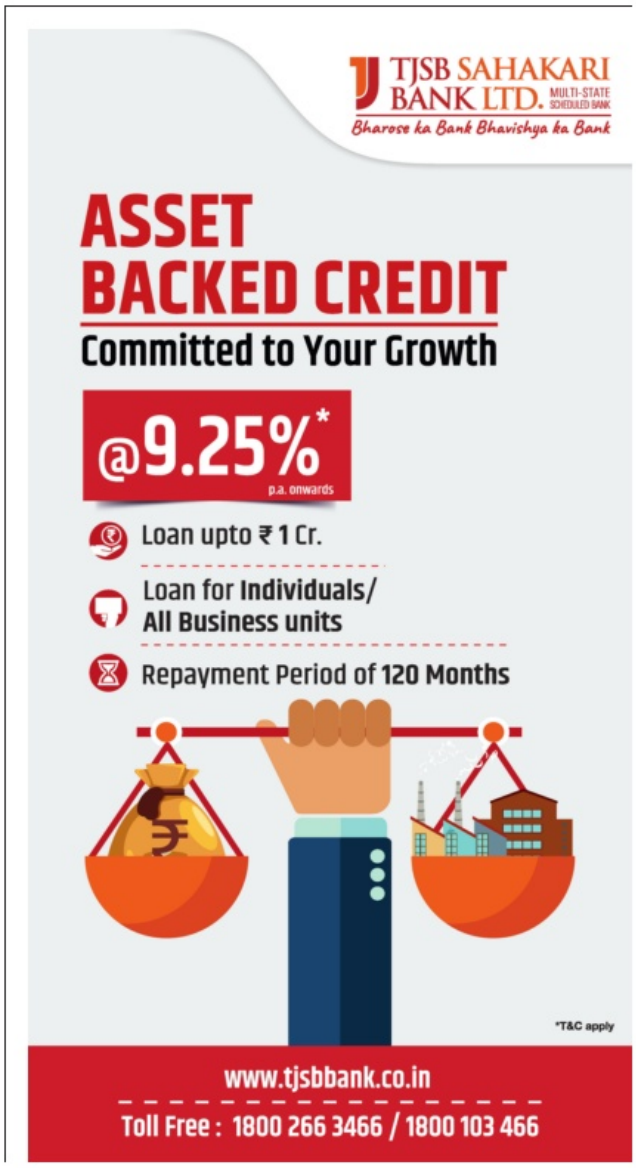
The family can avoid legal issues by having a nominee. According to the Bandhan Bank website, "There is a key reason behind nominations and assigning nominees. If a person dies, their investments can be transferred to their nominee. In case there is no nominee assigned, the family or legal heirs will have to go through a long and tedious process to receive the investments and assets of the demised person. There could be a long wait and delay in receiving the process in case there is no nomination. They would have to produce a will, certificate, or other documents proving their position. Such a situation can cause delays and strain situations for the unassigned nominee or next of kin. If a nominee is assigned, they would just need to provide their address proof, bank details, and ID at the time of claim to have the investments transferred to their name."

Implementation and monitoring of nomination in accounts

As per the latest RBI notification, the Customer Service Committee (CSC) or the Board of Directors will review the status of nomination coverage regularly. Progress is to be reported quarterly through the DAKSH portal starting March 31, 2025. The RBI circular said that the branch staff should be trained to handle nomination requests and claims of deceased customers efficiently. Account Opening Forms should also be updated to include options for customers to nominate a person or opt out of the nomination facility.

In addition to notifying customers directly, banks are encouraged to use various media channels to raise awareness about the nomination facility. Periodic drives should be organized to ensure full coverage of eligible accounts with nomination, the RBI said.

–Sneha Kulkarni, ET Online


TJSB SAHAKARI BANK LTD.
MULTI-STATE SCHEDULED BANK
Bharose ka Bank Bhavishya ka Bank
ASSET BACKED CREDIT
Committed to Your Growth
@9.25%*
p.a. onwards
Loan upto ₹ 1 Cr.
Loan for Individuals/ All Business units
Repayment Period of 120 Months
*T&C apply
www.tjsbbank.co.in
Toll Free : 1800 266 3466 / 1800 103 466

Mapping K'taka's leopards: Experts push for surveys

Conservationists urge state to conduct comprehensive leopard census to address human-wildlife conflicts, gather crucial data and improve conservation strategies

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After Rajasthan declared a leopard census outside its tiger reserves to check human-wildlife conflict, wildlife conservationists say a leopard census in Karnataka is the need of the hour too.

Experts say while substantial information is available about tiger population and habitat in the state, little is known about leopards. An exclusive leopard enumeration will not only ascertain the exact population of the big cat but will also lead to better conflict management and conservation strategies.

"Exclusive monitoring of leopards inside and outside reserves and protected areas in Karnataka is essential. We are witnessing a rise in leopard numbers outside reserves and protected areas leading to an increase in human-leopard conflict cases. A census will help the forest department estimate population size to devise better conflict management strategies," said Giridhar Kulkarni, a wildlife conservationist.

According to senior officials from the Wildlife Division of the Karnataka Forest Department, a state-wide leopard census, on the lines of Rajasthan, might be on the cards.

"We have been trying to carry out an exclusive leopard census in the state, but have not succeeded yet. The current leopard population estimation is secondary data that does not paint the right picture of its population size as many leopards live outside the forest areas. There is no systematic study of the leopard population. However, we may soon approach Rajasthan to understand the methodology they have adopted and submit a proposal," said SK Malkhede, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka.

Karnataka may approach Rajasthan for methodology and proposal

Currently, the leopard population is estimated from camera trap images obtained during a tiger estimation exercise conducted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). However, experts say the indirect estimation of the leopard population done during the tiger census is way off. However, a good proportion of the leopard population lives close to human habitation outside forest areas and in non-tiger habitats.

Rajkumar D, a wildlife expert at Wildlife Conservation Foundation, said, "Extrapolation technique to estimate population size works only when the animal has habitat preference. However, leopards give preference to prey base. The census, if conducted, will also give an idea about prey density in the given areas."

KFD (Karnataka Forest Department) officials, however, add that although the census can be conducted, it will prove to be exhaustive due to infrastructure requirements, which are not available in most of the territorial divisions. Conservationists suggest a multipronged approach.

"Installing camera traps outside forest areas is tricky due to theft. However, the department can look at indirect evidence such as scat to determine the leopard population outside forests. This can be done along with camera trap evidence. The census will also throw up other information that might prove beneficial in attaining various conservation goals. For instance, when we participated in the tiger estimation exercise in 2018, we used around 380 cameras. Analysis of these images also led us to four poachers," added Rajkumar.

Experts opine that many territorial divisions, devoid of tigers, have degraded as they are not notified as protected areas due to a lack of keystone species. Evidence of the presence of leopards in these patches will help in the conservation of the forest areas that are currently ignored.

"Census outcome should not just be about the number. The outcomes are rarely utilised to take measures on the ground. Recommendations given in the tiger census report of 2022 have lenient recommendations favouring infrastructure development activities, which may lead to habitat destruction. If the leopard census is conducted, these aspects must be considered," said a conservationist.

Sanctuary welcomes eight wolf pups

The Karnataka Forest Department reports that wolves, an endangered species, are thriving at the Bankapura Wolf Sanctuary in Koppal district. Recently, a female wolf gave birth to eight pups. Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre said that the 332-hectare sanctuary, located in the Gangavati regional division, is part of a scrub forest with natural hills and caves. It is home to a variety of wildlife, including wolves, leopards, peacocks, foxes, hares, and porcupines.

He said, "The sanctuary hosts a protected population of Indian Grey Wolves. Of the eight wolf pups recently born, typically only 50% are expected to survive. However, forest officials are implementing measures to ensure the survival of all pups. Recognised as a dedicated wolf sanctuary during the 15th Wildlife Board meeting, the area was also designated an eco-sensitive zone. Currently, the sanctuary hosts a wolf population of 35–40, including the new pups. Strict measures have been implemented to ensure the safety of the wolves and to prevent any disturbances to the newborn pups from human activities." He added that the sanctuary which is located around 15 kilometres from Gangavati town is being considered for development as a tourist destination, complete with safari facilities. Officials have been directed to conduct a feasibility study and submit a report. **–BMB**

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Not for sale

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC (Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee) President DK Shivakumar had a sharp retort for those speculating about the KPCC Presidency. "You can't just stroll into a store and pick up the KPCC Presidency off the shelf," he quipped. Speaking to reporters recently, he said, "This isn't a position you lobby for in the media. Hard work speaks louder than soundbites, and the Party knows how to reward that," he said. On party discipline, he said, "If there's anything major happening, I'll hold a press conference myself. Right now, the focus is on strengthening the party. Leaders, including the General Secretary in charge of Karnataka and the Chief Minister, have already laid down the rules—no public airing of internal matters."

Nostalgic trip

At the site dedication ceremony of the US consulate in Bengaluru, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar got a little nostalgic and shared his connection with the city. "I first came to Bengaluru in 1962. My grandparents lived here, and I even did a bit of schooling in this city," he reminisced. "When I joined the government, I could have ended up as an officer in the Karnataka cadre if I'd chosen the domestic service. I even did my district training in Chikkodi, Belagavi district." Jaishankar

added. "The fact that Bengaluru didn't have a US consulate always felt like a missing piece in the relationship," he said. The minister added that Bengaluru's importance made it essential to have a permanent presence of American diplomats in the city. Recalling a previous conversation, Jaishankar said, "While chatting with US Ambassador to India, Eric Garcetti, I struck a deal: "You get Bengaluru its consulate, and I'll get Los Angeles its consulate."

Change of dates

A determined First-year BCom student ensured her university exam was postponed after a last-minute clash with her CA exam. Scheduled for 9:30 am on January 16, her university exam was unexpectedly rescheduled to 2 pm, the same time as her CA exam, creating chaos. Panicked but resolute, she and her father approached Rajajinagar MLA S Suresh Kumar for help. "I immediately contacted Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar, who, despite being in Delhi, facilitated a conference call with the university registrar. While the registrar defended the sudden change, I highlighted the unfair burden on students and the damage to the university's credibility. I urged them to allow students an alternative date. Her persistence and quick action ensured that students' concerns were addressed," Kumar said.

Elephantine problem

The villagers in Narasimharaja Puram threaten that they won't vote in the upcoming elections if a permanent solution to the elephant menace is not found. The villagers alleged that elephants wreaking havoc in the fields, destroying crops like rice, banana, and betel leaves, the villagers are now threatening to boycott the elections until their safety is guaranteed. The villagers, unable to find any help from officials or politicians who are more focused on election duties, are urging that the election be postponed until a permanent solution to the elephant problem is found.

Caste census cauldron

In a quirky twist to the ongoing caste census drama, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara has left the ball firmly in the government's court when it comes to deciding whether the caste report will be shared with the public. Speaking to the media, he revealed that the government had spent a whopping ₹160 crore to prepare the caste report and, naturally, the public deserves to know its contents. However, he clarified that no decisions had been made about when the report would be disclosed. The sealed cover of the report will only be opened during a Cabinet meeting, and opening it beforehand could risk leaking sensitive information.

Siblings' support

In an unusual statement, BJP legislator Ramesh Jarkiholi warned his brother, Minister Satish Jarkiholi, that if they remain silent any longer, things could take a dangerous turn, asserting that they will only survive if they take a stronger stance. Speaking to reporters recently, Ramesh condemned Congress leader DK Shivakumar for spreading false information about the construction of the Belagavi district Congress office, claiming that false messages were being sent to the people of the state. He also expressed support for Satish Jarkiholi's stance on the issue. Ramesh further revealed that he contributed ₹27 lakh for the building. **-Sridhar Vivan**

Leave Cubbon Park alone, don't let traffic this way

Walkers meet on Sunday, reiterate demand that park be kept off-limits to traffic during weekends

| Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Walkers feel they want the lung space to themselves during weekends

Numerous walkers gathered on Sunday to voice their support for the ongoing weekend traffic ban at Cubbon Park. According to the walkers, the police have cited the need to ease traffic on roads surrounding Cubbon Park, particularly during events like private marathons and those held at Kanteerava Stadium, as the reason for proposing traffic through the park on all days.

Sunita Kumar from We Love Cubbon Park pointed to the severe traffic congestion in the CBD, particularly around Cubbon Park, caused by surrounding government offices, schools, and colleges. Despite improved public transport like the Metro, school traffic remains unregulated, with authorities failing to act on repeated follow-ups since 2017, she said.

She highlighted the under-manned Cubbon Park traffic police, burdened by VIP duties, and suggested creating a separate traffic station for VIP management. "Events in and around the park worsen the problem, and alternative venues like Freedom Park, BBMP parking facilities, and nearby stadiums could alleviate congestion," she said.

Bangalore Mirror
Will Cubbon Park open its gates to traffic daily?
Park's traffic-free status is not just advantage but a necessity: Cubbon Park conservationists oppose plans for vehicular access on weekends, holidays

Bangalore Mirror reported on January 19 citizens' apprehensions about traffic rule for Cubbon Park

Kumar also pointed out that traffic around the park is significantly reduced on weekends and holidays when government offices and schools are closed, further underscoring the need for better regulation and planning. "Freedom Park with the underutilised BBMP parking facility can be a venue for such programs. The JC Road parking / stadium parking / Shanthinagar bus stand parking / Pvt malls parking can all be utilised by proper planning by police and event organisers," she said.

TL Ramesh, businessman, a resident of Millers Road, Vasanth Nagar, said, "A park is meant to be a park. Maintaining lung space in the CBD area is vital for future generations,

> **"During covid, the park felt like a rich forest, untouched and beautiful without vehicles. Allowing traffic again will harm the ecosystem**
>
> – TL Ramesh, businessman

yet we are intruding on its flora and fauna. From Monday to Friday, traffic is allowed from 8 am, making it impossible to walk. During covid, the park felt like a rich forest, untouched and beautiful without vehicles. Allowing traffic again will harm the ecosystem. We must protect the park, and I hope the government reconsiders this decision."

A meeting was called by the government and park authorities this week to discuss the implementation of allowing traffic during weekends in Cubbon Park, but it is said to have been postponed to January 31.

The walkers also questioned that when crores of rupees were spent to redevelop the park premises under Smart City project, why should the government consider to again ruin it by allowing traffic inside. They reiterated their demand for speed breakers to reduce speeding of vehicles.

Former CFO and Board Member at Infosys, Mohan Das Pai who also came in support said, "The authorities need not open up Cubbon Park for traffic on Sunday as it is unnecessary. After a long period of time, citizens have breathing space in Cubbon Park on Sundays to come with children. This should be preserved. The city belongs to citizens. I appeal to the government officials that no such thing is done. There should be no-car day on Sunday."

Priya Chetty Rajagopal from Heritage Beku asked why Cubbon Park is always targeted. "Is the love of 14 million people for this green oasis, not enough to protect it? Take Cubbon Park off the traffic police and VIP radar once and for all. We have fought too many battles as citizens to protect the sanctity of the park citizens love and revere," she said.

Loitering bikers create alarm in once peaceful D Costa Square

| Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

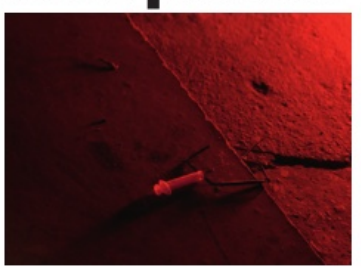
Arou Residents of D Costa Square have raised concerns over what they report as a spike in drug-related activities in their neighbourhood. Locals say, young men loitering on bikes are using drugs in the once quiet, residential area. A resident, who requested anonymity, told BM, "Groups of young men parked on bikes, behaving suspiciously, are often seen in the area. Many appear to be using drugs openly. We've even found loaded syringes discarded on the streets, which is extremely worrying for our children and pets."

The discovery of used syringes has particularly alarmed families. Parents are now hesitant to allow children to play outside unsupervised, and pet owners are taking extra precautions during walks. According to community members, the problem escalates in the afternoons and weekends. Despite repeated requests to disperse, the men reportedly return within hours.

A resident said it's been about 2-3 months since this began. "We have reported the issue to the police officials and they said they would look into it, but the problem persists. This neighbourhood used to be a safe place for families, and now it feels unsafe to step out after dark. A major issue is when cops come around for rounds they sound the horn, so when these boys hear it, they scoot."

Authorities respond

The local police station has acknowledged receiving complaints and has intensified patrolling in the area. A police official stated, "It's a residential area and so we have initiated increased vigilance. Patrol teams have been instructed to monitor D Costa Square, especially during peak hours of concern. We have gone for rounds in mufti but no such act was observed." Most of the time such drug cases happen near railway tracks and abandoned places, he said. "In an effort to tackle the issue, the police are doing surveillance of CCTV cameras in and around the square," police officials added.



Another resident said when such incidents were reported earlier, the police had arrested a drug peddler who used to operate from the car. "Now, they come around on bikes and have turned the area into a sort of hotspot. There have been instances where people smoked weed right in front of my house. I've had to chase them away multiple times, especially in the evenings, mostly on weekends when they gather here. Another issue is that there are around three vacant houses here, as the owners are abroad, and these individuals take advantage of those empty properties."

IN BRIEF

Kannada film at Berlinale

Natesh Hegde's full-length Kannada feature film, 'Vaghachipani', is one of the '30 films from five continents' and first Kannada film being chosen in the Forum Main category of the 75th International Film Festival Berlin, popularly called Berlinale, scheduled from February 13 to 23.

'Vaghachipani' is Hegde's second film. His first feature film, 'Pedro', much acclaimed in film festivals around the world, and produced by Rishabh Shetty, is yet to see a theatrical release in India. Even the Bengaluru International Film Festival (BIFFes) is yet to screen the film. But it is 'Pedro' that helped him find his producer for 'Vaghachipani' in Anurag Kashyap, who in turn brought in Ranjan Singh, who had produced Kashyap's 'Kennedy'. — PTI

Karnataka wins Vijay Hazare Trophy

Smaran Ravichandran's century helped Team Karnataka win the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2024-25 after beating Vidarbha by 36 runs in the final on Saturday at the Kotambi Stadium in Vadodara.

Vidarbha won the toss and opted to bowl on Saturday. Their decision failed to give them an advantage in the first inning. Mayank Agarawal (32 from 38 runs, 5 fours) and Devdutt Padikkal (8 from 19 balls, 1 four) failed to give a kickstart to Karnataka after a mere 23-run partnership. All credit goes to the middle-order of Karnataka, which helped put 348/6 in the first inning. Smaran Ravichandran (101 runs from 92 balls, 7 fours and 3 sixes), Krishnan Shrijith (78 runs from 74 balls, 9 fours and 1 six) and Abhinav Manohar (79 runs from 42 balls, 10 fours and 10 sixes) were the Karnataka's top performers. — ANI

Engineering student dies by suicide

A 21-year-old engineering student died by suicide by jumping from the fifth floor of his college building in Basavanagudi on Saturday. Akarsh Reddy, a 7th-semester student, lived with his parents in Anekal and commuted daily to college. The incident occurred around 4:45 pm, shortly after he completed his internal exam. Before taking the extreme step, he sent a message to his mother explaining his decision and asked his sister to keep his watch and kadaga as a memory.

The college security discovered his body and rushed him to the hospital, but he did not survive. Police suspect family issues as the cause and are investigating further after speaking with his friends and lecturers.

(If you have suicidal tendencies, help is available. Please call Arogya Sahaya vani number 104) — BMB

Riders can't seem to hang up as connectivity becomes priority, safety out of mind

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their phones inside their helmets and using them while riding." Social media was rife with comments on this menace.

"What about auto and cab drivers who are constantly on their phones, watching movies or scrolling through reels while driving? Their focus is on the phone, not the road, sometimes they use two phones one for booking another to scroll," said one user. Dhananjay MG, posted on X: "Almost all are using their phone while driving, and this is being captured on traffic cameras, yet no fines or challans are being issued for these daily offences. Even school bus drivers, water tanker drivers, and cab drivers are guilty of this."

Chethan Raghav, another social media user said the person recording the video is just as responsible for not stopping the driver or addressing the issue directly. "Instead of taking immediate action, they chose to film and post it online. That approach makes less sense than intervening on the spot."

Five Cs

According to Prof MN Sreehari, advisor to govt of Karnataka for traffic, transportation and infrastructure, the mobile menace or distracted driving on roads can be analysed through the 'five Cs' lens. Cognition suffers as mobile phone use distracts attention, reducing the ability to process vital road signs and signals. Safe driving and walking require undivided focus, which is compromised by phone use, he said.

Coordination and concentration are other casualties, as using a phone disrupts hand-eye coordination and multitasking abilities, making it difficult to maintain control over vehicles or navigate safely on foot. "Similarly, concentration is key. No one should be distracted—whether it's answering a call, talking to someone behind them, or engaging with a neighbour. A driver's full attention must be on the road, as we never know how others will behave while driving. What if someone takes a sudden turn? There are many unexpected situations. To prevent accidents and protect innocent lives, a driver must stay alert, keep an eye on the road, monitor the infrastructure, and be aware of the behavior of other drivers," Sreehari emphasised.

Third C is compliance with traffic laws which remains low, he said. Many drivers ignore regulations, further worsening the problem. The comes control that is impaired when individuals fail to regulate phone usage during critical moments requiring full attention. Two-wheelers, while easier to maneuver, demand careful speed management, as braking distances depend on factors like speed and tire condition, he said.

Lastly, culture plays a key role, he said, with many normalising phone use as necessary, even in hazardous situations. This mindset exacerbates the mobile

menace, underlining the need for awareness campaigns and stricter enforcement to prioritise road safety over connectivity, Sreehari explains.

The PIEV time theory

According to Sreehari, psychological factors significantly influence driving safety, particularly during distractions or sudden events. "The PIEV time theory helps explain a driver's reaction time, consisting of four stages, perception, intellect, emotion, and volition.

Perception is the brain's time to recognise sensory inputs like spotting a hazard. Intellect involves analysing the situation and deciding on an action. Emotion accounts for processing feelings such as fear or anxiety, which may delay reactions. Volition is the final step, where the driver makes a decisive action, such as applying the brakes which is a very crucial time for an accident to occur," he said.

PIEV time is vital in highway design, helping calculate safe stopping and overtaking sight distances. A standard reaction time of 2.5 seconds is typically used, with the stopping distance determined by multiplying the vehicle's speed by this reaction time.

After effects

Lakshmi Shashikumar, psychologist, Maayra Emotional Wellness Centre, says increased use of mobile phones while driving has resulted in numerous serious collisions that have affected people physically and psychologically.

"The quality of life for survivors suffers as a result of trauma, including physical harm, impairments, and extreme emotional anguish including PTSD, anxiety, and depression. At-fault drivers will also go through similar experiences which lead to impact towards self and family."

She added that recuperation may be seriously hampered by the ongoing reminders of the event and their family would be affected by such accidents resulting in loss, sadness, guilt or even rage and other mental health concerns. "Safety precautions and careful driving must be ingrained from the start to avoid any such traumatic event. Individual and family therapy will help to alleviate the pain more effectively," she said.

Your Connect

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

BANASHANKARI

BDA Site For Sale Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th H Block, 30x40 North Facing Nr KSIT Eng, College Genuine Buyers Contact 9448508410/ 9844216344

AVAILABLE/ WANTED BDA Sites Banashankari 6th Stage, 50x80, 40x60, 30x40, 20x30, Genuine Buyers Sellers Call. 9513332646/ 9902764626

JAKKASANDARA

FOR SALE - 3 Acres 16 Gunts Land at Harohalli Industrial Area 3rd Phase, 3 Warehouse already Built-up & its fully occupied, 10L/ Month exsiccating Rent, Call: 9019851332, 8951239211

JP NAGAR

J.P.NAGAR 30x40 with House North East and RBI Layout J.P.Nnagar 7th Phase 30x50 North Facing Duplex House 4 BHK Contact: 9845010893

MALLESHWARAM

LUXURY 3&4-BHK Built Up Area 3213Sft Servant Qrts, Gym, 2 Car Park, Multi Purpose Hall Opp Vidya Mandir, 6th Main, Call: 9986620202

FOR SALE

BANGALORE

PROPERTY for BUYING & SELLING in Bangalore [INDUSTRIAL RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL APARTMENTS VILLAS] Reach on: 9901000803

KARNATAKA

PRE LAUNCH OFFER North Bangalore's most prestigious Apartment With World Class Amenities. 3BHK 4BHK 5BHK. prelaunch offer Ct 9901000803

OUTSIDE BANGALORE

MYSORE

SITES @MYSORE Fully Completed Layout. Pay Rs.4.50 Lakhs, Buy 30x40 site, balance HDFC Bank loan,Dtcp,Akhata,RERA layout facing state Highway.Near HD Kote Road, 15 Min: Palace/ Railway Station. GSS: 9845287802

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

COMMERCIAL PREMISES

Rent 1000sft Office Space 1st Floor with Strong Room Kamanahalli Main Road for Mini Bank, Offices 9945113222

LEASE & RENT

FOR IMMEDIATE Rent or Sale 2 BHK 1255sft Flat 5th Phase J.P. Nagar Negotiable with carpark, lift 9108523435 9448451122 7760804890

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

TEACHER

WANTED Lady Teachers for Chemistry, Biology Mathematics and Physics (M.Sc.BEd,) Computer(M.Sc/BE.BEd) Hindi English & Kannada (MA.BEd) Walk-In on the following dates- From 20th to 25th of January 2025, Between 11:00am. and 4:00 pm. Send Resumes to Mail ID: srikrishna internationals@yahoo.com The Secretary, Sri Krishna International School, Bangalore -85. Phone- 26690799.

THE TIMES GROUP

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

MEDICAL

MEDICAL

BANGALORE BAPTIST HOSPITAL
Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024
REQUIRES

CONSULTANT-EMERGENCY MEDICINE
MD/MS/DNB in Medicine /Anaesthesia/Surgery with 5 years above experience

CONSULTANT-GASTROENTEROLOGIST
DM/DNB –Medical Gastroenterology with ERCP Skills and 3-5 years experience

CONSULTANT-NEUROLOGY
DM/DNB –Neurology with 0-5 years experience

CONSULTANT-NEPHROLOGY
DM/DNB –Nephrology with 0-5 years experience

CONSULTANT – NEUROSURGEON
DNB/ M.Ch with minimum 3-5 yrs experience

CONSULTANT-MICROBIOLOGIST (PART TIME)
MD/DNB Microbiology with 2-5 years experience

FETAL MEDICINE CONSULTANT
MS/DNB/Fellowship in Fetal Medicine with 0-5 yrs experience.

REGISTRAR-OBG
MS/DNB with 0-5 experience

REGISTRAR-CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE
MD/DNB in Medicine/ Anaesthesia with 0-2 experience

REGISTRAR-GENERAL SURGERY
MS/DNB with 0-5 experience

Apply Immediately to : The Director (CEO)
Ph: 080-22024700, Extn 1882
Mob: 8867155415
E-mail: hr@bbh.org.in
baptisthospitalhr@gmail.com

OTHER VACANCIES

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

BANGALORE BAPTIST HOSPITAL
Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024
REQUIRES

MAINTENANCE ENGINEER
B.E/Diploma in (EEE) with 5-10 years experience with hospital equipments.

PURCHASE EXECUTIVE
B.Com /BBM in logistics with 0-2 yrs exp, (with good communication skills and computer knowledge).

FACILITY MANAGER
Any Degree above 3-5 yrs experience as facility manager in hospital/hotel

LADIES HOSTEL WARDEN
(The ideal candidate should have relevant experience working in similar position)

Apply Immediately to : The Director (CEO)
Ph: 080-22024700, Extn 1882
Mob: 8867155415
E-mail: hr@bbh.org.in
baptisthospitalhr@gmail.com

WORK FROM HOME

EARN 50000pm with zero investment free Training from Top Co. for VRS/Rtd Official/ Bankers/Tax Consultants CA/House wives above 30 age- 9845083892

EXCLNT Opportunity to WFH & Earn upto 60k-1L*per month* exlv for Retd/VRS, H/M, CA'S, Business officials More details Contact: 9790796153/ 7795606685

business

DISTRIBUTORS

DISTRIBUTORS WANTED, Government - Approved Carry Bags and a range of sustainable products. Minimum Investment: Rs.50 lakh Call 9845824650 or 9980675668 www.biogreenbags.com

FOR SALE

BREWERY & Restaurant For Sale in J.P.Nagar 5HL Brewing Capacity 11,200 sqft, G+5 Premium Floors in Prime Location Licensed & Ready to Operate Contact: 63612 37545.

STOCKS & SHARES

BOOST YOUR WEALTH Multiply Your Savings Easily with our EXPERT TRADING SERVICES. 100% LEGAL. Call now to start: 6364627156

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ambuja Sudheendra Kalekurthi R/O Godrej Avenues,A wing, Flat No A1001, Yelahanka, Blr-64. I changed my name from Ambuja Sudheendra to Ambuja Sudheendra Kalekurthi for all future purposes.

I, Ankita W/o Nithin Kumar Jain Ashok R/o 759/13, 7th Main Road, Srinagar, Near Srinagar Bus Stop, Bengaluru - 560050 have changed my Name to Ankita Prakash Jain for all purposes

I, Mohammad omar shafiq ur rahman S/O Shafiqur Rahaman T F R #118/6 Hennur Blr-84 have changed my name to Mohammad Omar for all purposes.

I Iranna Parasappa Rugi S/O Parasappa Rugi R/o Bannur, Belgaum, Karnataka 591130 have changed my name to Irappa Parasappa Rugi.

I Prasanna Kumar E S/O, Eraiah R/o Lig 88 Kuvempunagar 2d Stage Mandya-571401 have changed my name to Yogananda Kc.

LOST & FOUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Document Lost Notice is hereby given that the property being under construction bearing Plot No.9, Property No.193/9 Attibele Hobli Anekal Taluk Admeasuring 720sqft, or thereabouts belong to Mr.NARAYANA.N S/o Nanjunda rao and Mrs.JAYASHREE.N W/o Narayana aged about 44 and 37 respectively, residing at ATTIBELE and the said Mr.NARAYANA and Mrs. JAYASHREE purchased under Partition deed Doc no. BNG(U) ANKL- 4895/2023-2024 Dated: 21/08/2023 and on 11/11/2024 at about 3.00pm was travelling in the bus in Bangalore, unfortunately, Lost the Original Mother Deed of the Document no: BNG(U) ANKL/4023/1996-97 Dated:07-08-1996, sub-reistrar (Anekal) Basavanagudi, of above said Property and the same not traceable. I have loged a complaint in Attibele police station ref no:1427541/2025. If anybody in the possession of the original document relating to the said property, they are requested to call or hand over the same to the below contact details. Nagarathna.S, BALLB Advocate Roll No: KAR/371/2016
Mobile: 7353962434 / 9945628118

HEALTH TIP: Drink plenty of water to keep your body and hair hydrated

Choose hair conditioning products with ingredients like keratin or silk protein for added strength and hydration

BangaloreMirror 9
Monday, January 20, 2025
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Do aliens exist?

Researchers study what scientists really think

News stories about the likely existence of extraterrestrial life, and our chances of detecting it, tend to be positive. We are often told that we might discover it any time now. Finding life beyond Earth is "only a matter of time", we were told in September 2023. "We are close" was a headline from September 2024.

It's easy to see why. Headlines such as "We're probably not close" or "Nobody knows" aren't very clickable. But what does the relevant community of experts actually think when considered as a whole? Are optimistic predictions common or rare? Is there even a consensus? In our new paper, published in Nature Astronomy, we've found out.

During February to June 2024, we carried out four surveys regarding the likely existence of basic, complex and intelligent extraterrestrial life. We sent emails to astrobiologists (scientists who study extraterrestrial life), as well as to scientists in other areas, including biologists and physicists.

In total, 521 astrobiologists responded, and we received 534 non-astrobiologist responses. The results reveal that 86.6% of the surveyed astrobiologists responded either "agree" or "strongly agree" that it's likely that extraterrestrial life (of at least a basic kind) exists somewhere in the universe.

Less than 2% disagreed, with 12% staying neutral. So, based on this, we might say that there's a solid consensus that extraterrestrial life, of some form, exists somewhere out there.

Scientists who weren't astrobiologists essentially concurred, with an overall agreement score of 88.4%. In other words, one cannot say that astrobiologists are biased toward believing in extraterrestrial life, compared with other scientists.

When we turn to "complex" extraterrestrial life or "intelligent" aliens, our results were 67.4% agreement, and 58.2% agreement, respectively for astrobiologists and other scientists. So, scientists tend to think that alien life exists, even in more advanced forms.

These results are made even more significant by the fact that disagreement for all categories was low. For example, only 10.2% of astrobiologists disagreed with the claim that intelligent aliens likely exist.

Optimists and pessimists

Are scientists merely speculating? Usually, we should only take notice of a scientific consensus when it is based on evidence (and lots of it). As there is no proper evidence, scientists may be guessing. However, scientists did have the option of voting "neutral", an option that was chosen by some scientists who felt that they would be speculating.

Only 12% chose this option. There is actually a lot of "indirect" or "theoretical" evidence that alien life exists. For example, we do now know that habitable environments are very common in the universe.

We have several in our own solar system, including the subsurface oceans of the moons Europa and Enceladus, and arguably also the environment a few kilometres below the surface of Mars. It also seems relevant that Mars used to be highly habitable, with lakes and rivers of liquid water on its surface and a substantial atmosphere.

It is reasonable to generalise from here to a truly gargantuan number of habitable environments across the galaxy, and wider universe. We also know (since we're here) that life can get started from non-life – it happened on Earth, after all. Although the origin of the first, simple forms of life is poorly understood, there is no compelling reason to think that it requires astronomically rare conditions. And even if it does, the probability of life getting started (abiogenesis) is clearly non-zero.

> **86.6% of surveyed astrobiologists said either 'agree' or 'strongly agree' that it's likely that ET (of at least a basic kind) exists somewhere in the universe**

This can help us to see the 86.6% agreement in a new light. Perhaps it is not, actually, a surprisingly strong consensus. Perhaps it is a surprisingly weak consensus. Consider the numbers: there are more than 100 billion galaxies. And we know that habitable environments are everywhere.

Let's say there are 100 billion billion habitable worlds (planets or moons) in the universe. Suppose we are such pessimists that we think life's chances of getting started on any given habitable world is one in a billion billion. In that case, we would still answer "agree" to the statement that it is likely that alien life exists in the universe.

Thus, optimists and pessimists should all have answered "agree" or "strongly agree" to our survey, with only the most radical pessimists about the origin of life disagreeing.

Bearing this in mind, we could present our data another way. Suppose we discount the 60 neutral votes we received. Perhaps these scientists felt that they would be speculating, and didn't want to take a stance. In which case, it makes sense to ignore their votes. This leaves 461 votes in total, of which 451 were for agree or strongly agree. Now, we have an overall agreement percentage of 97.8%.

This move is not as illegitimate as it looks. Scientists know that if they choose "neutral" they can't possibly be wrong. Thus, this is the "safe" choice. In research, it is often called "satisficing".

As the geophysicist Edward Bullard wrote back in 1975 while debating whether all continents were once joined together, instead of making a choice "it is more prudent to keep quiet, … sit on the fence, and wait in statesmanlike ambiguity for more data". Not only is keeping quiet a safe choice for scientists, it means the scientist doesn't need to think too hard – it is the easy choice.

Getting the balance right

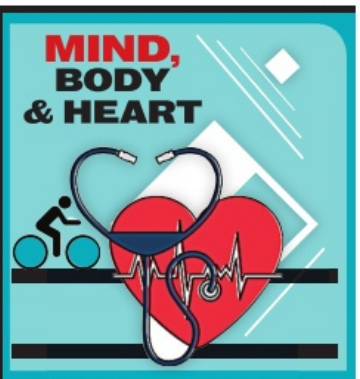
What we probably want is balance. On one side, we have the lack of direct empirical evidence and the reluctance of responsible scientists to speculate. On the other side, we have evidence of other kinds, including the truly gargantuan number of habitable environments in the universe.

We know that the probability of life getting started is non-zero. Perhaps 86.6% agreement, with 12% neutral and less than 2% disagreement, is a sensible compromise, all things considered.

Perhaps – given the problem of satisficing – whenever we present such results, we should present two results for overall agreement: one with neutral votes included (86.6%), and one with neutral votes disregarded (97.8%). Neither result is the single, correct result.

Each perspective speaks to different analytical needs and helps prevent oversimplification of the data. Ultimately, reporting both numbers – and being transparent about their contexts – is the most honest way to represent the true complexity of responses.

(By Peter Vickers, Durham University; Henry Taylor, University of Birmingham and Sean McMahon, University of Edinburgh)



All you need to know about...

Upcycling old jeans

Get crafty
There is a way to keep your old jeans in your life by upcycling it. Rather than throwing the material away, you may use it in many other ways. If you are crafty and have just a beginner level of sewing experience you can take it up as a project. Of course, if you feel the need to stitch the product further in a professional way you can visit the boutique in your neighbourhood.

Corset
The DIY corset can become a new great trendy addition to your closet. You may check the patterns online and note down your measurements. If you don't feel comfortable with playing with patterns then use your T-shirt to measure. Just make sure you are snatching it at the waist just right.

A Tote Bag
A tote bag can become a chic addition and uplift your look. Designing a tote bag is simple and you can create unique patterns as per your requirements. If you are into embroidery or zardozi you can sew some lyrical verses or create intricate designs. You may also expand your horizons and try making a sling bag or a cute duffle bag.

A Plant and Stationary Holder
This has to be one of the easiest ways to upcycle jeans. To make the plant/stationery holder you have to work with the lower part of the jeans moreover. You can also tuck some quirky add-ons into the plant holder.

Earrings
Add that element of edginess to your jewelry treasure trove with earrings made with upcycled jeans. You may go for tassel and circular patterns or create a unique statement piece.

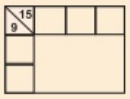
Patchwork Design
This can simply level up your living room decor. You may cut those strips of jeans, cut them out in different shapes, and viola! You have a great patchwork design. (Tip – You may use the pockets to slide in those letters or brochures)

-Femina

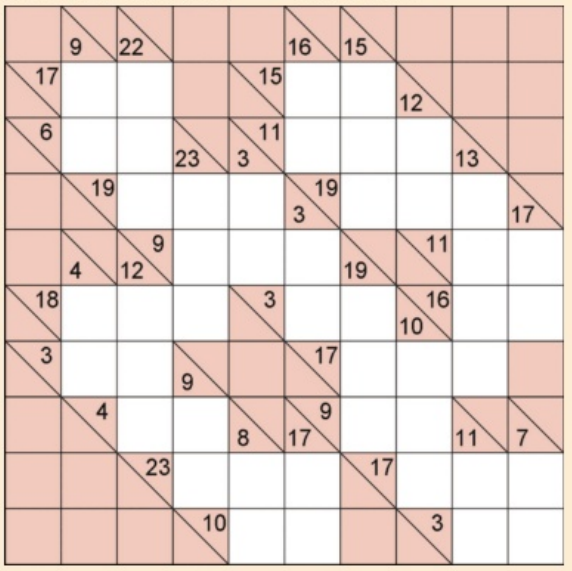
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

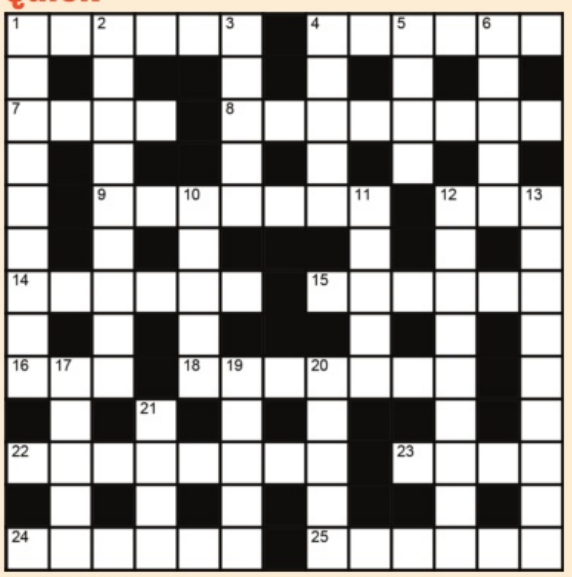
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Consume (6)
4 F in FRCS? (6)
7 You in old English (4)
8 Episode (8)
9 Devoid of brightness (7)
12 A part of a circle (3)
14 Formula One sport (6)
15 Park spanning 300 acres in the Cantonment Area (6)
16 It is a verbal contraction (3)
18 Fielding position on the cricket field? (4,3)
22 Supply route (8)
23 Put your name down as an indication (4)
24 Flavouring seed (6)
25 Complied (6)

DOWN

1 Explain; translate (9)
2 ___ ___ of carelessness / deeds of absolute or utter carelessness? (5,4)
3 Burglar (5)
4 Concentrate (5)
5 Stoppers (4)
6 Possessor (5)
10 Commonplace or trite (5)
11 Heartless (5)
12 Uncertainty (9)
13 Kept the lid on (9)
17 An organic compound – "Dime I" change? (5)
19 Sheep-like (5)
20 ____-Roman (wrestling style) (5)
21 Video games pioneer (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: M EQUALS H

LS DEL HYHB IRHUI FL RMH IEDH BFYHB RJFOH, ASB FR'I LSR RMH IEDH BFYHB ELG MH'I LSR RMH IEDH DEL .

Linemaro

Of all your beautiful curves, your smile is my favouritec

Mindchow

Who is not satisfied with himself will grow; who is not sure of his own correctness will learn many things

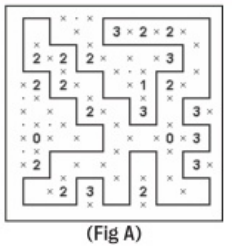
Joke of the day

Why did the cows return to the marijuana field?
It was the pot calling the cattle back

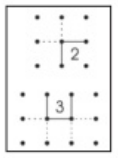
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



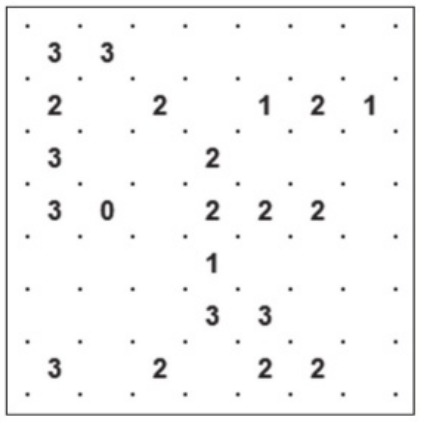
(Fig A)



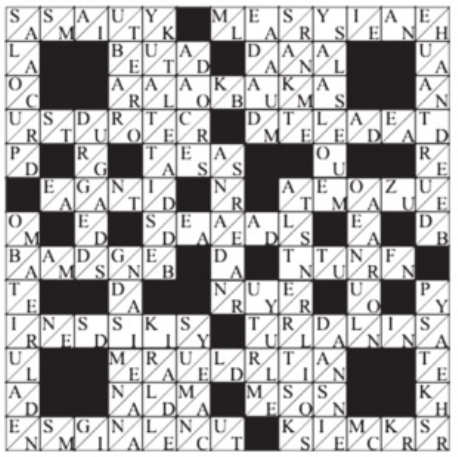
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



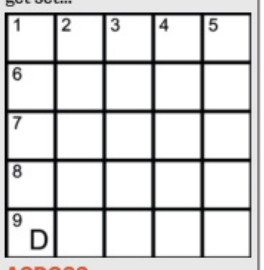
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

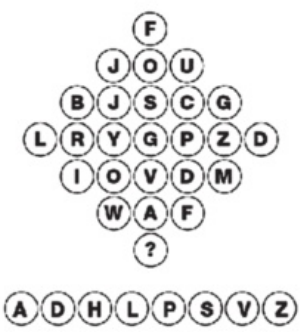
1 Trice; 6 A deer; 7 Pay to; 8 Clade; 9 Rill D

DOWN

1 Dared; 2 A tree; 3 I croc; 4 Plate; 5 Dilly

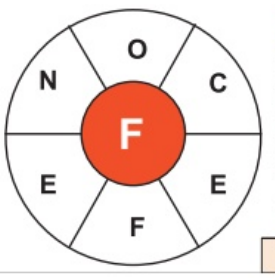
Mensapuzzle

Which of the lower letters replace the question mark to complete the puzzle?



A D H L P S V Z

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

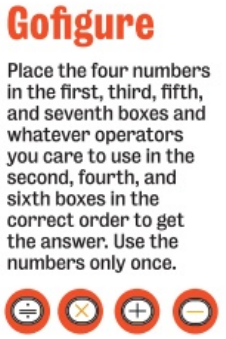
SudokuChallenge

3		2		1		7		
	1	7	3	2	4	5		
4			6					
		3	8					4
5					6	3		
					5			8
		1	4	6	8	9	7	
		9		3		6		2

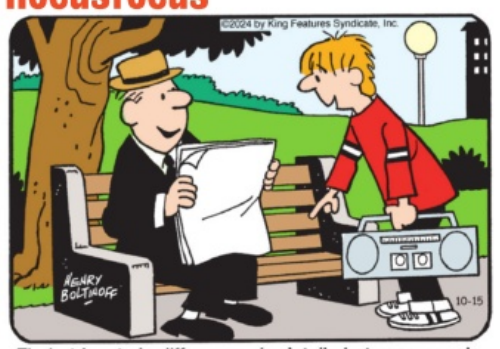
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

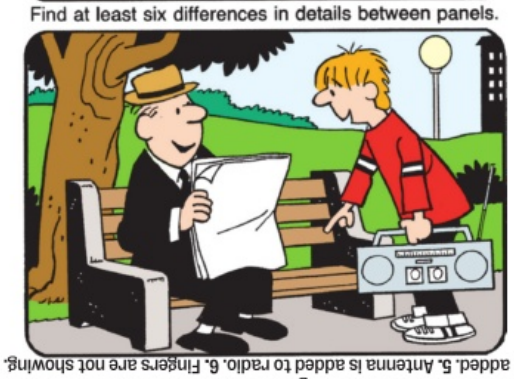
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



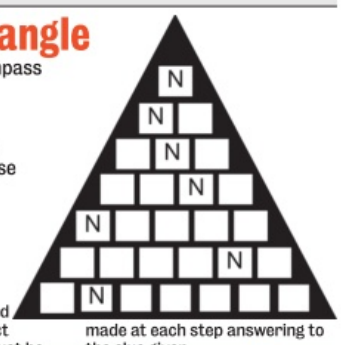
Differences: 1. Side of bench is different. 2. Radio speakers are different. 3. Slat is missing from back of bench. 4. Windows are added. 5. Antenna is added to radio. 6. Fingers are not showing.

Riddler

What is N? 6, 9, 27, 54, N, 2241

Alpha triangle

1 North on the compass
2 Neon symbol
3 Conclude
4 Lairs
5 Snooped around
6 Eggs come in these
7 Nodded off



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

WHAT ARE YOU GOING AS FOR HALLOWEEN, SAM?
I'LL BE GOING AS A BIG DEAL
WHAT'LL YOU BE WEARING?
A HUGE DECK OF CARDS
©2024 creators.com 10/15
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

HEART, YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED. WE HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED GYM CLASS YET.
SLEEP, KIDS!!
I'VE BEEN HAVING NIGHTMARES, LIKE, EVERY NIGHT! I CAN'T GET ANY SLEEP!
'TIS THE SEASON. HALLOWEEN IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. MAYBE YOUR NIGHTMARES WILL STOP ON HALLOWEEN.
THAT'S DAYS FROM NOW!! I'LL BE DEAD FROM EXHAUSTION BY THEN!!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 AUDREYS MOMEEL
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the Moon, which brings opportunities for business planning. Your colleagues may support you in implementing your ideas. Stuck payments from clients might be recovered, improving the cash flow of your business. However, by late evening, you may feel a bit low, which could disrupt your sleep.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
You will gain control over opponents and hidden adversaries today. Legal matters are likely to conclude in your favour. Your hard work will be recognised by seniors, possibly leading to new responsibilities or a promotion. Singles may find their soulmate.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Happiness surrounds you today. You might plan to buy creative items to elevate your lifestyle or spend on friends and family. Investing in assets is on the cards. Singles might meet someone special, and lovebirds can enjoy quality time together.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you might seek peace of mind, but the Moon's blessings will help you stay focused. Avoid investments in property or assets. Domestic life will bring happy moments, though it's important to keep arrogance and ego in check, especially with your spouse. Disputes with business partners are likely to be resolved.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Your polite demeanour will work in your favour today, helping you resolve many issues. You may successfully manage your finances, striking a balance between savings and expenses, which will boost your savings. Renovating your house with creative purchases might also be on your agenda.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Control your words when interacting with family, as loose remarks may disrupt harmony. Avoid unnecessary expenses, especially for maintaining social status. It's advised not to keep cash easily accessible. Health issues related to ears, teeth, or throat may arise; take precautions.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is favourable for your vitality and health. You'll enjoy your work and a harmonious domestic life. Strong partnerships may yield benefits in business. Job seekers might find suitable opportunities. Lovebirds should avoid discussions that could hurt each other's pride.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Negative thoughts might dominate today, and your impatience or arrogance could hinder decision-making. Seek the blessings of your elders to overcome challenges at work. Avoid investments in unproductive assets. Lovebirds should steer clear of revisiting unpleasant moments.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
It's important to monitor your words today and be cautious of hidden enemies or conspiracies. Avoid risky investments and lending money, as it may be difficult to recover. Practising meditation and yoga can help reduce stress and bring mental clarity.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
You are in a favourable position to overcome opponents and hidden adversaries. Stuck funds may be recovered, and you'll perform exceptionally well at work. For singles and lovebirds, it's an ideal day to make important decisions about marriage.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today marks the end of last week's struggles. You can restart postponed projects and may be rewarded for your hard work, boosting your confidence. Financial gains are likely, particularly for those in export-import, fashion, or dairy-related businesses.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You may feel fatigued and face minor health issues today, possibly due to overthinking. This could affect domestic harmony and delay your participation in social or family gatherings. Losses in business are possible, so avoid new investments. Lovebirds should steer clear of controversies.

KIDZONE

Tripti Singh, Bengaluru

Sadhvi Sanju, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER 675. The next number in the sequence is n squared minus m or f(n,m) = n2 – m f(6,9) = 62 – 9 = 27 f(9,27) = 92 – 27 = 54 f(27,54) = 272 – 54 = 675 f(54,675) = 542 – 675 = 2241

QUOTE UNCODE
No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man.

FAST FIVE

R	E	C	T	I
E	A	R	E	D
A	T	O	P	Y
D	E	C	A	L
D	R	I	L	L

SOLVE IN 1M
45+60
5×9+6×10
105

STRIKE OUT

A	M	I	T	Y	M	E	S	S	I	A	H			
L	B	U	D		D	A	L		L		U			
O		A	L	A	B	A	M	A			N			
U	S	U	R	E	R	M	E	L	E	D				
D	R		T	E	A		O			R				
A	G	N	I		N	A	M	A	Z	E				
O		E		D	E	E	D	S		A	D			
B	A	D	G	E		A	T	U	R	F				
T		A		R	Y	E		O		P				
R	E	D	S	K	Y		U	R	A	N	I	A		
	M		S		V		R		U		I			
T	I	S		L	O	N	G	L	E	G	A			
E		T		A		E		I		T				
R	A	C	I	N	G		C	U	B	B	O	N		
P		A		R		M		O						
R		S	U	B	F	U	S	C		A	R	C		
E		S		U		E		S		E				
T	H	O	U		I	N	C	I	D	E	N	T		
N		R		H		O		I		W		U		
I	N	G	E	S	T		F	E	L	L	O	W		

QUICK

S	E	S	A	M	E		O	B	E	Y	E	D		
	D		G		N		C		T		E			
S	I	G	N				P	I	P	E	L	I	N	E
	M		S		V		R		U		I			
T	I	S		L	O	N	G	L	E	G	A			
E		T		A		E		I		T				
R	A	C	I	N	G		C	U	B	B	O	N		
P		A		R		M		O						
R		S	U	B	F	U	S	C		A	R	C		
E		S		U		E		S		E				
T	H	O	U		I	N	C	I	D	E	N	T		
N		R		H		O		I		W		U		
I	N	G	E	S	T		F	E	L	L	O	W		

MENSA PUZZLE
L. Start at the top of the diagram and work in rows, from left to right, top to bottom. Letters move through the alphabet in steps of 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, before repeating the sequence.

BULL'S EYE
coffee, fence, OFFENCE

SUDOKU

3	8	2	5	1	9	7	4	6
6	1	7	3	2	4	5	8	9
4	9	5	6	8	7	2	3	1
9	7	3	8	5	2	1	6	4
1	6	4	9	7	3	8	2	5
5	2	8	1	4	6	3	9	7
7	3	6	2	9	5	4	1	8
2	5	1	4	6	8	9	7	3
8	4	9	7	3	1	6	5	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, Ne, End, Dens, Nosed, Dozens, Snoozed.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 + 9 + 4 – 1 = 14
Medium
3 + 4 + 4 – 8 = 3
Hard
3 – 3 + 7 – 1 = 6

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 18, Issue No 014 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore–560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon–responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Henry Cavill is a dad
Hollywood star Henry Cavill and his girlfriend Natalie Viscuso have welcomed their first child

Mrunal turns fangirl

Coldplay is presently in India for their 'Music of the Spheres' World Tour. Recently, the British rock band performed at the DY Patil Stadium in Mumbai. Bollywood diva, Mrunal Thakur also joined the lost list of attendees who grooved to the tunes of the rock band.

Mrunal Thakur also decided to post a few sneak peeks from the eventful night on her Instagram stories. For the unversed, Coldplay will perform in Mumbai on 18, 19, and 21 January this year. Meanwhile, the second leg of the Indian tour will take place in Ahmedabad on 25 and 26 January.

Mrunal recently made headlines due to her perky comment on Bruno Mars' Instagram post. The singer posted a jaw-dropping photo in a white ganji and matching hat on the photo-sharing app.

He wrote in the caption, 'So this your new man? Where'd you meet him, at an all-girls school? – a short story by Bruno Mars'.

Reacting to the picture , Mrunal Thakur wrote in the comment section, "Well ….. If the world was ending, I'd wanna be next to you!"

On the professional front, Mrunal Thakur will next be a part of the highly-anticipated sequel "Son of Sardaar 2". **–IANS**

'I feel proud that I have worked hard'

Hrithik Roshan receives Global Achievement Award at Joy Awards

Actor Hrithik Roshan was conferred with the Honorary Award for Global Achievement and 25 Years of Excellence in Cinema at the Joy Awards 2025 in Riyadh.

Celebrated filmmaker Mike Flanagan presented the award, delivering a heartfelt tribute to Hrithik's illustrious career.

The official social media handle of Joy Awards shared the video clip of the 'Fighter' actor receiving the award and his winning speech.

"Tonight we celebrate an artist whose versatility and passion have shaped cinema for over two decades. From groundbreaking performances to redefining what it means to be a star, he continues to inspire and surprise us with every role. His journey is a true testament to the power of reinvention," Flanagan said during the presentation.

Marking more than two decades in the Indian film industry, Hrithik has delivered iconic films, including 'Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai', 'Koi Mil Gaya', 'Lakshya', 'Dhoom 2', 'Krrish', 'Jodhaa Akbar', 'Guzaarish', 'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara', 'Kaabil', 'Super 30', 'Fighter', and the 'War' franchise. On receiving the award, Hrithik expressed gratitude for the recognition and shared his perspective on his career, "Thank you Riyadh, Joy Awards, and my thanks to Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman for inviting me here from India. I'm humbled and grateful for this honour. It's been 25 years, but I feel like I've only just begun to truly understand acting. I take this as a symbol of hope and a promise for the next 25 years," he said. **–ANI**

Man suspected of stabbing Saif nabbed

Police arrested on Sunday a 30-year-old man in India's financial capital Mumbai whom they said was considered the prime suspect in the stabbing of Bollywood star Saif Ali Khan.

The assault shocked the country's film industry and raised concerns over the lack of security in Mumbai, home to many Bollywood actors.

Khan was stabbed with a knife on Thursday at his home and sustained one deep wound near his spine. A female employee at Khan's home was also injured during the attack. The actor, who underwent surgery, was out of danger, his doctors said. Senior police officer Dixit Gedam said the suspect was a Bangladeshi citizen who had entered India illegally and changed his name from Mohammad Shariful Islam Shehzad to Bijoy Das, and that initial evidence suggested he entered Khan's home with the intention of theft.

The suspect was arrested on the outskirts of Mumbai where he has lived for five or six months, Gedam said.

Khan, also a movie producer, has been featured in about 70 films and television series. **–AP**

Bhumi enroute World Economic Forum

Actor & Climate Warrior, Bhumi Pednekar is a part of the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders (YGL) Community. The 'Badhaai Do' actress will now be attending the prestigious Davos 2025 World Economic Forum annual event in Switzerland, representing India.

Bhumi Pednekar took to her Instagram stories and shared a video of her car ride in Switzerland enroute the Davos 2025 World Economic Forum annual event. Earlier, the actress talked about her next steps as a YGL for the World Economic Forum. She was quoted saying, "I really want to attend Davos despite my hectic shooting calendar. The idea of being a Young Global Leader is to excel in our individual fields as well. This year is a very busy year for me as an actor, as an entrepreneur, and as someone who wants to leave an impact. I really hope that I can be there at Davos and at every platform that requires my voice."

On another hand, Bhumi Pednekar will next be seen sharing the screen with Arjun Kapoor, and Rakul Preet Singh in the forthcoming romantic entertainer "Mere Husband Ki Biwi". As the release nears, the team is currently busy wrapping up the remaining shoot and post-production work for the drama. If the reports are to be believed, an unfortunate accident took place on the film's set recently while they were shooting a song. **–IANS**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Special attachment

Manchu Vishnu, who plays the lead in the much-awaited movie Kannappa, was in town to promote the movie. Vishnu, along with director Mukesh Kumar Singh, known for television series Mahabharat, Tamil actor Sharathkumar, and choreographer-cum-actor and director Prabhu Deva, were all in the city to launch the promotional programme of the movie on Friday.

"I have a special attachment with Bengaluru. I will never forget the affection of Ambareesh uncle and Dr Vishnuvardhan, who were both close to my father Mohan Babu. Ambareesh uncle was aware that I was working on Kannappa. I began the script for the movie in 2015. I wanted Ambareesh uncle to act in Kannappa but he passed away before the movie went on floors. I contacted Dr Shivarajkumar but he could not act in the movie as he was busy," said Vishnu.

A large part of Kannappa was shot in New Zealand for 90 days.
"Sharathkumar uncle has not only played an important character in the movie but also helped me during the shooting. I thank Prabhu Deva for working as a choreographer for three songs," said Vishnu.

A pat on the back

The cast and crew of Hyena are over the moon after receiving a pat on the back from Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya. The movie's trailer was unveiled by Tejasvi Surya at his office at Jayanagar 5th Block on Thursday. The movie, directed by Venkat Bharadwaj, is scheduled to release on January 31.

"I am very happy to unveil the trailer of Hyena, a movie based on patriotism. This movie is made to convey a good message to society. I thank director Venkat Bharadwaj for helming this movie. Let this movie create awareness in society on the importance of patriotism," said Tejasvi Surya.

Bharadwaj said that it gives him immense pleasure to direct movies based on patriotism. "The movie highlights the importance of intelligence, police, and defence departments and it throws light on the functioning of these departments. I am disappointed with the Central Board of Film Certification for advising me to remove the names of a few countries mentioned in the movie," the director said.